

Express Mail Label No.: EV313923877US
Date of Deposit: July 13, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 15966-577 RCE (CURA-77
RCE)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Shimkets, *et al*
SERIAL NUMBER : 09/662,783 EXAMINER: Dong Jiang
FILING DATE : September 12, 2000 ART UNIT: 1646
FOR : GROWTH FACTOR POLYPEPTIDES AND NUCLEIC ACIDS
ENCODING SAME

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Final Office Action, mailed January 13, 2004 in the above-identified application. With the extension, the response is due on or before July 13, 2004. A check in the amount of \$475.00, in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3), is enclosed herewith. The Applicants claim small entity status.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 15966-577 (Cura-77). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Date: July 13, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529
Naomi S. Biswas, Reg. No. 38,384

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